

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A cannulated medical instrument for insertion of a medical device over a guide wire comprising:
 - a cannulated driver member configured to engage the medical device and insert the medical device at an insertion rate;
 - a cannulated follower member rotateably engaged with said cannulated driver member; and
 - a clasp device connected to said cannulated follower member, wherein said clasp device engages the guide wire and wherein said cannulated follower member moves the guide wire distally away from said cannulated driver member at an extraction rate in response to rotation of as said cannulated driver member.
2. (Original) The medical instrument of Claim 1, further comprising a cannulated engaging member connected with said cannulated driver member, said cannulated engaging member configured to engage at least one of fasteners, reamers, and drill bits.

3. (Currently Amended) The medical instrument of Claim 1, wherein said cannulated follower member is at least partially threaded with an instrument thread pitch.
4. (Currently Amended) The medical instrument of Claim 3, wherein an interior bore of the cannulated driver member is threaded and configured to rotatably engage with said cannulated follower member.
5. (Currently Amended) The medical instrument of Claim 4, wherein said cannulated follower member is configured to move distally away at said extraction rate from said cannulated driver member when said cannulated driver member is rotated about said cannulated follower member.
6. (Original) The medical instrument of Claim 5, wherein the medical device is at least partially threaded with a device thread pitch.
7. (Original) The medical instrument of Claim 6, wherein said insertion rate is equal to said extraction rate when said instrument thread pitch is equal to said device thread pitch.
8. (Original) The medical instrument of Claim 6, wherein said insertion rate is greater than said extraction rate when said instrument thread pitch is greater than said device thread pitch.

9. (Original) The medical instrument of Claim 6, wherein said insertion rate is less than said extraction rate when said instrument thread pitch is less than said device thread pitch.

10. CANCELED

11. (Currently Amended) The medical instrument of Claim 1 ~~10~~, wherein said clasp device holds the guide wire rotationless when ~~the driving~~ said cannulated driver member rotates relative to said cannulated follower member ~~and following member rotate.~~

12 - 17. CANCELED

18. (Original) The medical instrument of Claim 1 wherein the cannulated driver member is hand-driven.

19 - 20. CANCELED

21. (Currently Amended) A cannulated medical instrument ~~driver~~ for driving a ~~fastener~~ medical device over a guide wire comprising:

a cannulated driver ~~follower~~ member configured to drive the medical device ~~rotatably engaged with the cannulated driver~~; and

a clasp device connected to said cannulated driver ~~follower~~ member, said clasp device operable to engage the guide wire and operable to translate, ~~wherein said clasp device moves the guide wire distally away from said cannulated driver member at an extraction rate~~ in response to rotation of said cannulated driver member.

22 - 24. CANCELED

25. (Currently Amended) The cannulated medical instrument of Claim 21, wherein said clasp device is configured to hold the guide wire rotationless and in a neutral position while the said cannulated driver member rotates.

26 - 34. CANCELED

35. (NEW) The cannulated medical instrument of Claim 21 further comprising a lead screw rotatably connected to said cannulated driver member and operable to rotate in response to said rotation of said cannulated driver member, wherein said cannulated driver member is configured to rotate at the same rotational velocity or a different rotational velocity than said lead screw.

36. (NEW) The cannulated medical instrument of Claim 35 wherein said clasp device defines a threaded aperture that receives said lead screw and wherein said clasp device moves relative to said lead screw when said lead screw rotates in response to said rotation of said cannulated driver member.
37. (NEW) The cannulated medical instrument of Claim 21 wherein said cannulated driver member drives the medical device at an insertion rate, wherein said clasp device move away from said cannulated driver member at an extraction rate and wherein a magnitude of said insertion rate is one of equal to, greater than and less than said extraction rate.
38. (NEW) The medical instrument of Claim 37, wherein said extraction rate is based on at least one of said insertion rate, a device thread pitch of the medical device, an instrument thread pitch of a lead screw operably engaged to said cannulated driver member and said clasp device, an instrument thread pitch of a cannulated follower member, gearing connected between said lead screw and said cannulated driver member and combinations thereof.
39. (NEW) The medical instrument of Claim 21, wherein said cannulated driver member is connected to a drive motor.

40. (NEW) The medical instrument of Claim 39, wherein said drive motor comprises one of an electric motor and a pneumatic motor.

41. (NEW) A cannulated medical instrument for insertion of a medical device over a guide wire comprising:
- a cannulated driver member adapted to insert the medical device;
 - a cannulated follower member moveably engaged to said cannulated driver member and configured to move relative to said cannulated driver member as said cannulated driver member inserts the medical device; and
 - an engagement portion of said cannulated follower member adapted to engage the guide wire to substantially inhibit the guide wire from traveling toward said cannulated driver member as said cannulated driver member inserts the medical device.
42. (NEW) The medical instrument of Claim 41, wherein said cannulated follower member is at least partially threaded with an instrument thread pitch and wherein an interior bore of the cannulated driver member is threaded and configured to rotatably engage with said cannulated follower member.
43. (NEW) The medical instrument of Claim 41, wherein said engagement portion of said cannulated follower member holds the guide wire rotationless as said cannulated driver member inserts the medical device.
44. (NEW) The medical instrument of Claim 41 wherein said cannulated driver member is hand-driven or is connected to a drive motor.

45. (NEW) A cannulated medical instrument for insertion of a medical device over a guide wire comprising:

a cannulated driver member configured to insert the medical device, said cannulated driver member configured to be guided over the guide wire; and

a clasp device connected to said cannulated driver member, said clasp device operable to engage the guide wire and to move away from said cannulated driver member in response to said cannulated driver member inserting the medical device, wherein the guide wire moves with said clasp device relative to said cannulated driver member.

46. (NEW) The cannulated medical instrument of Claim 45 further comprising a cannulated follower member rotateably connected to said cannulated driver member and operable to rotate relative to said cannulated driver member, said cannulated follower member connected to said clasp device, wherein the guide wire moves with said clasp device and said cannulated follower member relative to said cannulated driver member.

47. (NEW) The cannulated medical instrument of Claim 45 further comprising a lead screw rotateably connected to said cannulated driver member, said lead screw rotateably engaged with said clasp device, wherein said lead screw rotates in response to the rotation of said cannulated driver member and said clasp device moves away from said cannulated driver member in response to the rotation of said lead screw.

48. (NEW) The cannulated medical instrument of Claim 45, wherein said clasp device holds the guide wire rotationless when said cannulated driver member rotates.
49. (NEW) The cannulated medical instrument of Claim 46 wherein said cannulated driver member is hand-driven or is connected to a drive motor.